

NEWS RELEASE**Grain Stocks
March 31, 2003****MARCH 2003 GRAIN STOCKS REPORT****North Dakota**

All wheat stored in all positions in North Dakota on March 1, 2003 totaled 136 million bushels, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is a 21 percent decrease from a year ago and the lowest since 1975's 106 million bushels. All wheat stocks include durum, other spring and winter wheat. On-farm stocks are estimated at 86.0 million bushels, down 25 percent from last year and the lowest since 1996's 81.0 million bushels. Off-farm stocks, at 50.0 million bushels, are down 13 percent from a year ago. The indicated December 2002-February 2003 total disappearance is 56.5 million bushels, down 13 percent from the same period in 2002.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions totaled 34.2 million bushels, up 3 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 25.0 million bushels, are unchanged from March 1, 2002. Off-farm stocks totaled 9.20 million bushels, up 11 percent from a year ago. The December-February disappearance is 14.6 million bushels, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Barley stocks in all positions totaled 26.3 million bushels, down 29 percent from a year ago and the lowest since 1950 with 14.8 million bushels. On-farm stocks are 10.0 million bushels, down 44 percent from March 1, 2002, and the lowest on record for March grain stocks since estimates began in 1950. Off-farm stocks are 16.3 million bushels, down 15 percent from a year ago and the lowest level since 1985. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 16.3 million bushels, down 21 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Corn stocks in all positions totaled 55.1 million bushels, up 42 percent from last year. Of the total stocks, 35.0 million bushels are stored on farms, up 25 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 20.1 million bushels, are up 86 percent. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 33.4 million bushels, 19 percent higher than a year earlier.

Soybean stocks in all positions totaled 25.1 million bushels, compared to 19.9 million bushels on March 1, 2002. On-farm stocks totaled 15.5 million bushels on March 1, 2003, compared to 12.0 million bushels on March 1, 2002. Off-farm stocks, at 9.55 million bushels, are up from last year's 7.89 million bushels on March 1.

United States

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 905 million bushels, down 25 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 233 million bushels, down 31 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 672 million bushels, are down 23 percent from a year ago. The indicated December 2002 - February 2003 disappearance is 415 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 56.5 million bushels, up 9 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 31.7 million bushels, are up 5 percent from March 1, 2002. Off-farm stocks totaled 24.8 million bushels, up 15 percent from a year ago. The indicated December 2002 - February 2003 disappearance of 20.2 million bushels is down 18 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 124 million bushels, down 13 percent from March 1, 2002. On-farm stocks are estimated at 36.7 million bushels, 20 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 86.8 million bushels, are 9 percent below March 1, 2002. Indicated disappearance during the December 2002 - February 2003 quarter totaled 46.5 million bushels, down 13 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 5.13 billion bushels, down 11 percent from March 1, 2002. Of the total stocks, 2.94 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 12 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.19 billion bushels, are down 10 percent from the previous year. The December 2002 - February 2003 indicated disappearance is 2.51 billion bushels, compared with 2.47 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2003 totaled 1.20 billion bushels, down 10 percent from March 1, 2002. On-farm stocks totaled 636 million bushels, down 7 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 566 million bushels, are down 13 percent from a year ago. Indicated disappearance for December 2002 - February 2003 totaled 912 million bushels, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

For More Information Contact:

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GRAIN STOCKS, March 1, 2003

Crop	Date	NORTH DAKOTA			UNITED STATES		
		On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total All Positions	On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total All Positions
Wheat, All ^{2/}	Mar 1, 2002	114,000	57,700	171,700	338,500	871,268	1,209,768
	Dec 1, 2002	133,000	59,500	192,500	384,800	935,069	1,319,869
	Mar 1, 2003	86,000	50,000	136,000	233,200	671,667	904,867
Durum Wheat	Mar 1, 2002	25,000	8,300	33,300	30,200	21,690	51,890
	Dec 1, 2002	40,000	8,800	48,800	50,800	25,917	76,717
	Mar 1, 2003	25,000	9,200	34,200	31,700	24,849	56,549
Barley	Mar 1, 2002	18,000	19,100	37,100	46,000	95,748	141,748
	Dec 1, 2002	29,000	13,600	42,600	83,400	86,601	170,001
	Mar 1, 2003	10,000	16,300	26,300	36,730	86,783	123,513
Oats	Mar 1, 2002	6,500	570	7,070	40,200	53,158	93,358
	Dec 1, 2002	9,800	850	10,650	52,500	51,284	103,784
	Mar 1, 2003	4,700	580	5,280	35,000	47,438	82,438
Corn	Mar 1, 2002	28,000	10,800	38,800	3,355,000	2,440,263	5,795,263
	Dec 1, 2002	65,000	23,500	88,500	4,800,000	2,837,971	7,637,971
	Mar 1, 2003	35,000	20,100	55,100	2,940,000	2,192,318	5,132,318
Soybeans	Mar 1, 2002	12,000	7,890	19,890	687,000	648,987	1,335,987
	Dec 1, 2002	36,000	16,100	52,100	1,170,000	943,641	2,113,641
	Mar 1, 2003	15,500	9,550	25,050	635,500	566,308	1,201,808

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. 2/ Includes durum, other spring and winter.

